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Georgia Southern University Athletics



Byrd, Brinson Receive Conference Plaudits For Play at Minnesota
Game time for Louisiana contest also announced
Football

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NEW ORLEANS - Georgia Southern's [Rashad Byrd](#) and [Monquavion Brinson](#) were among those honored by the Sun Belt Conference Monday as the pair were recognized for their play at Minnesota on Saturday. Byrd was named the defensive player of the week while Brinson earned special teams player of the week plaudits. It is the first honor for both this season.

DEFENSIVE PLAYER OF THE WEEK

[Rashad Byrd](#), Georgia Southern (Jr., LB, North Augusta, S.C.)

[Rashad Byrd](#), a junior captain, led a stout Eagle defense against the high-flying Golden Gopher attack with a team-high 11 total tackles. His sack, forced fumble, fumble recovery and subsequent 44-yard touchdown return gave the Eagles the lead with under four minutes to go. He received a 91.2 grade from Pro Football Focus, the highest by five points of any Sun Belt defender for the week. His 98.0 grade on pass rush defense was 21 points higher than the next highest SBC defender for the week.

SPECIAL TEAMS PLAYER OF THE WEEK

[Monquavion Brinson](#), Georgia Southern (Sr., DB, Atlanta, Ga.)

[Monquavion Brinson](#), a senior cornerback, had a spectacular 77-yard touchdown return on a blocked field goal by linebacker [Reynard Ellis](#), starting down the near sideline, back-tracking and beating all 11 Gopher defenders to the edge to take the return down the far sideline to bring the Eagles within two midway through the fourth quarter. It was his first collegiate touchdown.

OFFENSIVE PLAYER OF THE WEEK

Kaleb Barker, Troy (Sr., QB, Decatur, Ala.)

Kaleb Barker threw for a Troy-record 504 yards and tied a career-high with four touchdown passes in Troy's game against Southern Miss. The 504 yards were the fourth most in a game in Sun Belt Conference history. Barker extended his streak of pass attempts without an interception to 140 in the process.

Additionally, the conference announced Monday the game time for the Eagles' next game, which is on Sept. 28 at home against Louisiana. Georgia Southern and the Ragin' Cajuns will kick off at 6 p.m. in a game that will be broadcast on ESPN+. Tickets are available for the conference opener at GSEagles.com/Tickets.

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